U.P., Chhattisgarh and Assam to establish RBH pilot project. The remaining States would also be taken up for the development of Rural Business Hubs based on the progress of the pilots. Proposals from Andhra Pradesh would be welcome. The Ministry is in touch with the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard.

(d) The core areas identified for development of Rural Business Hubs are in the field of renewable energy including bio-gas, bio-fuel from Jatropha plantation and solar energy, Agro industries, Agro Processing and Rural Industries including Khadi & Village Industries and Textiles, handlooms and handicrafts.

Installation of Computers in Panchayats

1669. SHRI R. KAMARAJ:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to spend over Rs. 1,000 crores in the next two years towards installation of computers in 2.4 lakh panchayats, interlink them with one another and also with a national panchayati portal;

(b) if so, the guidelines worked out so far for this project;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are banking on the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance to raise funds in this regard;

(d) whether talks were held with them in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is preparing a scheme for the computerization of Panchayats, under the National e-Governance plan, which will require close coordination with the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and State Governments in implementation. Expenditure targets are being finalized.

(d) State Governments have been consulted to take into account their individual initiatives in this regard, as also to understand the gaps, needs and constraints in e-Governance for Panchayats.

(e) Does not arise.

Scam in Delivery of Petrol and Diesel

1670. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that agents sending oil tankers for army from Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) depots to Leh and Ladakh were siphoning off petrol and diesel before it reaches Leh and are delivering tankers full of water to forward bases, instead of oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a team of IOC officials recently visited Leh for investigating the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome thereof and the action taken against the persons responsible for this fraud?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) and (b) Commanding Officer, Field Petroleum Depot, Indian Army, Leh *vide* their letter dated 16.07.2005 informed IOC's Ambala Terminal that 7 Tank Trucks loaded with HSD Ex Ambala on 11.07.2005 were found to be carrying water.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. An IOC team visited Leh on 21st-22nd July 2005 during which the Army authorities informed them that an FIR had been lodged with the local police authorities and all 7 Tank Trucks were under police custody. The Tank Trucks drivers had also been arrested by the police.

This Ministry has asked IOC to get an immediate enquiry conducted into the matter through their Chief Vigilance Officer. In addition, IOC have